

E. REMARKS

By virtue of this Preliminary Amendment, the Applicants intend to prosecute claims 15-17, 19, 29-31, and 33 (Species B), as designated in an Office Action issued in the parent U.S. Patent Application No. 10/145,337 mailed October 15, 2003. Claims 1-14, 18, 20-28, 32, and 34 are cancelled without prejudice. Claims 15-17, 19, 29-31 and 33 are now pending in view of the above amendments. The Applicants submit that no new matter has been added

Drawing Objections

The drawings were objected to under MPEP §608.02(g) for not designating illustrations showing only that which was old as prior art. Specifically, the Examiner requires that FIGs. 1A, 1B, 1C, 2, and 3 be designated by a legend such as 'Prior Art'. Therefore, as shown on the enclosed replacement sheets, Figures 1A, 1B, 1C, 2, and 3 have been amended to include the legend 'Prior Art', without adding new matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 15-17 and 29-31 (including independent claims 15 and 29) were rejected in the parent application under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Wong et al (U.S. Patent No 5,896,340) (hereinafter referred to as 'Wong').

In order to most succinctly explain why the claims presented herein are allowable, Applicant will direct the following remarks primarily to the originally presented independent claims 15 and 29 with the understanding that once an independent claim is allowable, all claims depending therefrom are allowable.

Claim 15 has been amended to include the subject matter of former dependent claim 18, which has now been canceled. No new matter was added to claim 15. As discussed in the Office Action, Wong fails to teach the use of a power line that is separately connected to one of the multiple arrays.

Similarly, claim 29 has been amended to include the subject matter of former dependent claim 32, which has now been canceled. No new matter has been added to claim 29. As discussed in the Office Action, Wong fails to teach the use of a power line that is separately connected to one of the multiple arrays.

Rejection of the dependent claims 16, 17, 30, and 31 should be reconsidered and withdrawn for at least the reasons given above with respect to the independent claims. The dependent claims, being narrower in scope, are allowable for at least the reasons for which the independent claims are allowable.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 15-17 and 29-31 are allowable, and urges the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 18 and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wong in view of the admitted prior art in FIG. 1. Claim 18 has been canceled, with the subject matter of claim 18 added to claim 15. Claim 32 has also been canceled, with the subject matter of claim 32 added to claim 29. Following, is an explanation of why claims 18 and 32 do not violate 35 U.S.C. §103, and therefore claims 15 and 29, as amended, should be allowed.

The Wong and prior art references, when combined, do not teach or suggest all of the elements of claims 18 or 32. Specifically, the Wong reference does not teach the use of a power line that is separately connected to one of the multiple arrays, and the prior art reference of FIG. 1 does not overcome that deficiency for two reasons. First, the power distribution system of FIG. 1 results in a system wherein all pull-up and pull-down resistors are drawing current, thereby undesirably dissipating power (See Specification Page 9 Lines 6-7). Second, the power distribution system of FIG. 1 results in a strong reverse bias voltage for all data diodes not on a selected row or column which causes undesirable leakage currents to flow (See Specification Page 9 Lines 7-11). The power distribution system in the present invention, which was not described in Wong, overcomes the problems apparent in the prior art. Specifically, inhibit lines are connected to each individual row, and connect to and extend through the row decoder circuitries of all arrays in a given column (See Specification Page 12 Lines 6-7). Separate column inhibit lines are independently connected to the column decoder circuitries of each array (See Specification Page 12 Lines 12-13). Thus, with the power distribution system in the present invention, each single array can be powered separately, with the voltages matched more closely. This overcomes the problems in the prior art using solutions not discussed in Wang. Therefore,

the combination of Wang with the prior art in FIG. 1 does not teach or suggest all the elements of claims 18 or 32.

Claims 19 and 33 were objected to in the Office Action as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The claims are now dependent upon claims 15 and 29 respectively. Claims 15 and 29 are now in a condition for allowance. The dependent claims 19 and 33, being narrower in scope, are allowable for at least the reasons for which the independent claims are allowable.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 18, 19, 32, and 33 are allowable, and urges the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

CONCLUSION

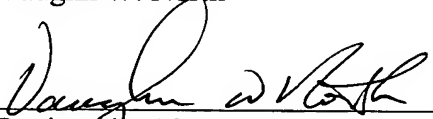
In light of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 15-17, 19, 29-31 and 33 are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant requests that the rejections and objections be withdrawn, and that the claims be allowed and passed to issue. If any impediment to the allowance of these claims remains after entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is strongly encouraged to call Vaughn W. North at (801) 566-6633 so that such matters may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or to credit any overpayment in connection with this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

DATED this 10th day of Feb, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

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